

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE
ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Inquiry into the ratio of cabin crew members on aircraft

*Chair: Sharon Bird MP**Deputy Chair: Paul Neville MP*

Public Hearing Into Cabin Crew Ratios

The House of Representatives Infrastructure and Communications Committee will be holding a public hearing **tomorrow in Canberra** as part of its inquiry into the **ratio of cabin crew to passengers on domestic flights**. The hearing follows on from the hearing held last Thursday in Sydney.

Under current regulations, operators of Australian domestic aircraft carrying between 16 and 216 passengers must carry at least one cabin crew member for every 36 passengers (1:36). The Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) is considering a proposal to amend these regulations.

Since 2006, CASA has permitted a number of airlines to operate certain aircraft with a ratio of one cabin crew member for up to 50 passenger seats (1:50). CASA has proposed implementing the 1:50 regulation for all aircraft with between 20 and 216 passenger seats, subject to the operator having a CASA-approved safety risk management plan in place.

The Chair of the Committee, Sharon Bird, said "Having met last week with representatives of the aviation industry, government agencies, and an expert in the field of aviation safety, we are now looking forward to meeting with two organisations that represent employees in the aviation industry."

What: Public hearing for inquiry into Cabin Crew Ratios.

Who: Flight Attendants Association of Australia; and Transport Workers Union

When: 4.15pm (approx), Wednesday 25 May.

Where: Committee Room 1R6, Parliament House, Canberra.

The hearing will be webcast live (audio only) at: <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

Further information: contact the Inquiry Secretary (02) 6277 2352, email ic.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the Committee's webpage at <http://www.aph.gov.au/ic>

For media comment: please contact the Committee Chair, Ms Sharon Bird, on (02) 4228 5899